IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Inventor(s) : Shoji HAYAKAWA

Serial Number : Based on International Application No.

: PCT/JP03/16890

Filed: October 6, 2005 (herewith)

For : PIPE CONNECTING STRUCTURE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Honorable Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 6, 2005

Dear Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the aboveidentified application as set forth on the attached sheets.

Specification Amendments begin on page 2 of this paper.

Claims Amendments begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.